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ABSTRACT

The U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity (USAMRAA) entered into a cooperative agreement between the Department of Defense Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System (DoD-GEIS) central hub and the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine (HMJF). DoD-GEIS will initiate a plan to provide funding, personnel resources, the centralized management for coordination and reporting related to the DoD efforts for improving global surveillance and efforts in support of research related to avian influenza/pandemic influenza. The results of these efforts will be coordinated with the Unified Combatant Commands and other military and civilian organizations/agencies. to acquire the following unique capabilities for the Department of Defense Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System (DoD-GEIS) work in support of the congressional mandated plan for the DoD avian/pandemic influenza surveillance: (1) management and oversight of the implementation of the comprehensive DoD avian/pandemic influenza surveillance with funding from the Presidents Emergency Budget for Pandemic Influenza (2) surveillance efforts domestically and internationally, including those using the Global Emerging Infections Systems (GEIS), and how such efforts are integrated with other ongoing surveillance systems (3) the surveillance efforts domestically and internationally, including those using the Global Emerging Infections Systems (GEIS), and how such efforts are integrated with other ongoing surveillance systems (4) acceleration of medical research and development related to pandemic influenza. (5) preparation of report for submission to Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Health Protection). The Cooperative Agreement contains four (4) primary tasks. The status of each is summarized below: Task A: Lease suitable space to accommodate the increase of professional staff to manage the AI/PI program. Accomplished—Space was leased at 2900 Linden Lane 1 July 2006; minor renovation was completed 15 August 2006; furniture, communications installed 18-28 September 2006; space available for occupancy 28 September 2006. TASK B: Hiring of Administrative Core Staff for the DoD GEIS. Key personnel hired: Team Leader, Supplemental Influenza Oversight Team; Program Administrator; Program Manager; Laboratory Expert placed on hold at direction of GOR. TASK C: Avian Pandemic Influenza Communications Center. Key personnel hired: Team Leader APICC; all other positions placed on hold until facility was completed. Hiring actions commence 1 October 2006. TASK D: 1. Center for the Epidemiology and Serosurveillance of Pandemic Influenza (CESPI). Key personnel hired: Deputy Scientific Director; SAS Programmer (2); Senior Network Administrator; all others positions places on hold until facility was completed. Hiring actions commence 1 October 2006. 2. Establishment of Specialized Serologic Testing facility. Negotiation commenced on 5 September 2006 with John Hopkins University. Anticipate that the establishment of testing facility will be completed during the October 2006 timeframe.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	5
Body.....	6
Key Research Accomplishments.....	7
Reportable Outcomes.....	7
Conclusions.....	7
References.....	7
Appendices.....	7

INTRODUCTION:

The Henry M. Jackson Foundation will provide space, personnel, equipment and to support surveillance and efforts in support of the Department of Defense Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System (DoD-GEIS) research related to avian influenza and pandemic influenza preparedness and response.

The Department of Defense Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System (DoD-GEIS) has been charged to manage a \$39M congressional supplement for Avian/Pandemic Influenza. Time is of the essence and Congress expects improved DoD surveillance systems to be in place early. The urgency imposed on us by Congress and the even greater urgency of having an enhanced surveillance system in place before, not after, the pandemic start is critical.

The Department of Defense Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System (DoD-GEIS) central hub will initiate a plan to provide funding, personnel resources, the centralized management for coordination and reporting related to the DoD efforts for improving global surveillance and efforts in support of research related to avian influenza/pandemic influenza. The results of these efforts will be coordinated with the Unified Combatant Commands and other military and civilian organizations/agencies.

Specifically, the HJF will provide the following support:

- The administrative offices and communication center;
- The administrative core staff for the management and oversight of the AI/PI program and its associated surveillance and research projects;
- An Avian/Pandemic Influenza Communications Center for coordinating the global surveillance and research efforts related to Avian influenza/Pandemic influenza;
- A Center for Serosurveillance/Seroepidemiology (currently titled Center for the Epidemiology and Serosurveillance of Pandemic Influenza (CESPI)). The CESPI shall be established as an independent analysis unit under AMSA operational control, dedicated to the epidemiology and serosurveillance of AI/PI. The CESPI will enable near-real time serosurveillance and research support for AI/PI, and will capitalize on and leverage the unique serum and data assets of the Department of Defense Serum Repository (DoDSR) and the Defense Medical Surveillance System (DMSS) to enable high-quality seroepidemiologic research and epidemiologic studies to be performed in response to pandemic disease. This center is managed by the Army Medical Surveillance Activity (AMSA), USACHPPM.

BODY

Scope:

This statement of work (SOW) shall be performed by the awardee for the Department of Defense Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System (DoD-GEIS). The awardee will provide space, personnel, equipment and support under the scope of collaborations defined by this agreement to support surveillance and efforts in support of research related to avian influenza and Pandemic influenza preparedness and response.

Background:

The Department of Defense Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System (DoD-GEIS) has been charged to manage a \$39M congressional supplement for Avian/Pandemic Influenza. Time is of the essence and Congress expects improved DoD surveillance systems to be in place early. The urgency imposed on us by Congress and the even greater urgency of having an enhanced surveillance system in place before, not after, the pandemic start is critical. Failure to move quickly may well result in serious political and social consequences for DoD and USAMRMC. Since there is a possibility that a pandemic situation could occur before the program is started, a streamlined and barrier-free ramp-up into action is required. DoD-GEIS currently lacks sufficient space to manage and support the oversight of the congressional mandated supplement.

Objectives:

The Department of Defense Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System (DoD-GEIS) central hub will initiate a plan to provide funding, personnel resources, the centralized management for coordination and reporting related to the DoD efforts for improving global surveillance and efforts in support of research related to avian influenza/pandemic influenza. The results of these efforts will be coordinated with the Unified Combatant Commands and other military and civilian organizations/agencies.

Tasks:

1. Lease suitable space to accommodate the increase of professional staff to manage the AI/PI program. An ideal commercial building has been leased at 2900 Linden Lane, Silver Spring, MD consisting of 14,059 square feet of office space. This space consists of 2 suites on the first floor and 3 suites on the second floor. Minor renovations for handling the computer/data loads have been accomplished. The physical security for the building has been enhanced to meet the DoD standards.
2. Provide the administrative core staff for the management and oversight of the AI/PI program and its associated surveillance and research projects. Key personnel have been hired: Team Leader, Supplemental Influenza Oversight Team; Program Administrator; Program Manager; Laboratory Expert placed on hold at direction of GOR.

3. Establish a Communications Center for coordinating the global surveillance and research efforts related to Avian influenza/Pandemic influenza. Key personnel hired: Team Leader APICC; all other positions placed on hold until facility was completed. Hiring actions commence 1 October 2006.

4. a. Establishment of a Center for Serosurveillance/Seroepidemiology (currently titled Center for the Epidemiology and Serosurveillance of Pandemic Influenza (CESPI)). The CESPI shall be established as an independent analysis unit under AMSA operational control, dedicated to the epidemiology and serosurveillance of AI/PI. The CESPI will enable near-real time serosurveillance and research support for AI/PI, and will capitalize on and leverage the unique serum and data assets of the Department of Defense Serum Repository (DoDSR) and the Defense Medical Surveillance System (DMSS) to enable high-quality seroepidemiologic research and epidemiologic studies to be performed in response to pandemic disease. This center is managed by the Army Medical Surveillance Activity (AMSA), USACHPPM. Key personnel hired: Deputy Scientific Director; SAS Programmer (2); Senior Network Administrator; all others positions places on hold until facility was completed. Hiring actions commence 1 October 2006.

b. Establishment of Specialized Serologic Testing facility. Negotiation commenced on 5 September 2006 with John Hopkins University. Anticipate that the establishment of testing facility will be completed during the October 2006 timeframe.

KEY RESEARCH ACCOMPLISHMENTS: N/A

REPORTABLE OUTCOMES: N/A

CONCLUSION: The Cooperative Agreement is on track and approximately 50% of the cited tasks have been completed. The Cooperative Agreement has been extended to 30 June 2007. Pending discussion with the GOR further establishment of priorities for the remaining task, all tasks will be completed or in a sustainment phase by end of period of performance.

REFERENCES: N/A

APPENDICES: N/A

SUPPORTING DATA: N/A